Naxalite problem in Bastar, Chhattisgarh

†2147. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that naxalists are pressurising the elected public representatives in Bastar area of Chhattisgarh to resign their posts and are launching deadly attacks on them and on their close relatives;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the assistance being extended by the Central Government to Chhattisgarh and its bordering naxal affected States to deal with the situation in this direction, stringently?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. According to available information, 51,33 and 27 Panchayat Officials of Districts of Dantewada, Bijapur and Bastar respectively in Bastar region have so far resigned under the pressure of the Naxalities. Only two instances of assault on such officials have come to the notice of the Government, but no instances of attacks on their close relatives have been reported.

(b) and (c) 'Public Order' and 'Police' being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to curb left wing extremist activities in the States. However, keeping in view the overall dimensions of left wing extremism, a Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States, as its members, regularly reviews and coordinates steps taken by the States to check left extremist activities and makes recommendations both on development and security aspects of the problem.

Besides, sharing of intelligence inputs and providing assistance of paramilitary forces on need basis etc., the Central Government also provides financial support for modernization and strengthening of State Police forces. In addition, 32 terrorist outfits including MCC and CPML-PW have been notified as 'Terrorist Organisations' under Prevention of Terrorism Act, (POTA), 2002.

In order to assist left wing/naxalite extremism affected States to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

undertake more effective action, the Central Government has implemented the reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme for reimbursement of 50% of the Security Related Expenditure incurred by them in tackling the problem of left wing extremism including the naxalites. An amount of Rs. 32.25 lakhs has been reimbursed to the Government of Chhattisgarh for expenditure incurred during year 2001-02. So far, the Central Government has reimbursed about Rs. 96.71 crores to the naxalite/ left wing extremism affected States.

Earthquake in pilgrimage places in Uttaranchal

†2148. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the warning given by Disaster Management and DMNC to the effect that "there is apprehension of disastrous earthquake in important pilgrimage centres of Uttaranchal such as Kedarnath, Badrinath, Gangotri and Yamnotri; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme formulated by Government to deal with such disastrous natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) and (b) The Disaster Mitigation & Management Centre (DMNC) has not given any warning of a disastrous earthquake in important pilgrimage places of Uttaranchal.

It is not possible to predict an earthquake with reference to location, time and magnitude. However, areas/zones vulnerable to earthquakes have been clearly marked out and State Governments have been requested by the Central Government to take necessary preparatory measures in the earthquake vulnerable areas.

Wind atlas to map wind energy potential

2149. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is preparing a wind atlas to map the country's wind energy potential; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

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